

D-8039A/5(0)-1

RICE FILE NO. D.8039A/5(0)-1

GENERAL SITUATION

Part I

SECTION

0. Spare.
1. Price and Profiteering.
2. Stocks and Local Situation.
3. Harvests and Situation in Rice Producing Areas.
4. Shanghai Rice Price Adjustment Committee.
5. Rice Market Foochow Road.
6. Bean & Rice Hong Owners Guild and Other Ass'n.

[illegible]

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

CROSS-REFERENCE SLIP

S.B. Registry OFFICE

FILE NO. D.8039A/5(0)

(D. I. Crawford's report of 20 11 38)
SUBJECT:

Rice Situation

- Increase in price.

[illegible]

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

3. REGISTRY

D. 8039A/501-1

Date

20 10 41

S.1 Special Branch Station. File No. Date October 20, 1941.

SUBJECT: Heavy increases in prices of rice and reasons for

Heavy increases in prices of various grades of rice were recorded at to-day's session of the Rice Market, 515 Boochow Road, the main factors attributable to such an upward trend being twofold: (1) the tense international situation and (2) brisk demands by Cantonese and Swatow merchants. The total business done at the Market this morning amounted to 25,872 "zars" of rice.

The following are the prices quoted for various grades of rice :-

Kan Mee

\$160.00 to \$162.00 per "zar"
(increased by \$4)

Nui Mee

\$162.00 to \$170.00 per "zar"
(increased by \$6 to \$12)

Saigon Rice

First Quality - At the opening of the session, the price was quoted at \$156.00 per "zar" but towards the close it subsided to yesterday's level of \$150.00 per "zar"

Second Quality- \$145.00 per "zar"
(increased by \$6.50)

Rangoon Rice (Non-S.M.C. Rice)

\$140.00 to \$144.00 per "zar"
(increased by \$7 to \$7.50)

FILE
22. 10. 41.

Commr of Police
Sir:

W. Duncan
20/10 (S. Br.)



A. C. (Special Branch)

W. S. Wilcox
D. S. I.

80377/504/1
7 8 41
Headquarters,
Shanghai Municipal Police.

August 5, 1941.

To Secretary & Commissioner General,

S. M. C.

The Commissioner of Police presents his compliments in forwarding herewith the unmentioned documents.

Reference No:- Further to this office letter dated August 2, 1941.

Subject :- Fixing of Rice Prices by P.M.C.

Enclosures Copy of a Police report.
For information.

CSC.



Special Branch,

August 4, 1941.

Fixing of rice prices by F.M.C.

With reference to the above subject, Sub-Inspector J. Perie under instructions from R. Sarly, Esq., Director of Services, French Police, called to ask if parallel measures would be taken in the Settlement as there was now considerable difference in the prices of rice in the Concession and the Settlement, and that the rice dealers in the Concession were complaining of losses. I informed Sub-Inspector Perie that the S.M. Police had no power in this matter but that a copy of the letter on the subject had been forwarded to the Council and would no doubt be dealt with by the Supplies Committee.

In my opinion this price fixing is not practical. It failed before and there is no doubt that the present Council scheme is proving a real balancing factor in keeping prices within reasonable limits.

Certified true copy


csc.

Special Branch, *8037/10*

August 4, 1941. *4 8 4*

Commissioner.

Sir,

Fixing of rice prices by F.M.C.

With reference to the above subject,
Sub-Inspector J. Perie under instructions from
R. Sarly, Esq., Director of Services, French Police,
called to ask if parallel measures would be taken in the
Settlement as there was now considerable difference
in the prices of rice in the Concession and the Settlement,
and that the rice dealers in the Concession were complain-
ing of losses. I informed Sub-Inspector Perie that the
S.M. Police had no power in this matter but that a copy
of the letter on the subject had been forwarded to the
Council and would no doubt be dealt with by the Supplies
Committee.

In my opinion this price fixing is not
practical. It failed before and there is no doubt that
the present Council scheme is proving a real balancing
factor in keeping prices within reasonable limits.



A.C. (Special Branch)

Headquarters,
Shanghai Municipal Police.

August 2, 1941.

To Secretary & Commissioner General,

S. M. C.

The Commissioner of Police presents his compliments in forwarding herewith the undermentioned documents.

Reference No:- S.B. D.8039A/5(0)H.

Subject :- Fixing of Rice Prices by F.M.C.

Enclosures

Copy of a Police report.
(for information)

Please inform your rice Committee.

CLK/.



Section 1, Special Branch.

July 31, 1941.

Fixing of Rice Prices by F.M.C.

Attached is a copy, together with translation .
of a letter addressed to the French Consul General
from the French Police detailing the measures taken
to control the prices of rice in the present
emergency.

Certified true copy.

W. H. Richardson
CSC.

July 29, 1941.

From the

Director of Police Services
to the French Consul-General,
Shanghai.

Sir,

The events that are at present taking place in the Far East, the Franco-Japanese Agreements relating to Indo-China and the measures taken by the United States in regard to Japanese and Chinese credits, had repercussions on the market on Saturday and Monday morning. The speculators sent up prices -- a rise which was entirely artificial - particularly the price of rice. Saigon rice on Monday morning rose from \$118.50 to \$125 per zar of 80 kilograms. On July 25, the price fluctuated between \$114 and \$116 and rose to \$118.50 on Saturday morning.

Under the circumstances, the price quoted by retailers on the basis of replacement prices could not help rising. It appeared to be necessary to act immediately to prevent speculators from indulging in shameless practices which, in March last, had sent up the price of Saigon rice to \$150 per zar.

In this connection, we have, in accord with the Director-General of the Municipal Services, published in the local Press a note, a translation of which is attached.

The measure taken is intended to "block" the retail price at the average prices quoted on the morning of July 25, namely:-

Per Zar of 80 Kgs.

Saigon Rice 1st Quality	\$126
Saigon Rice 2nd Quality	\$119
Glutinous rice	\$125
S.M.C. Rice	\$116
Broken S.M.C. Rice	89

The Retail Rice Merchants Guild was notified of these measures on the afternoon of July 28 and it declared itself in favour of their enforcement. The effects of the decision taken were immediate. The price of Saigon Second Quality Rice dropped by \$4 per Zar this morning.

Certified true copy.

W. H. Richardson
CLK/.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

Section 1, Special Branch
REPORT

Date July 31, 1941

Subject (in full)..... Fixing of Rice Prices by F.M.C.

Made by..... and..... Forwarded by..... D.S.I. Young

Attached is a copy, together with translation,
of a letter addressed to the French Consul General
from the French Police detailing the measures taken
to control the prices of rice in the present
emergency.

I
D.B. C & B)

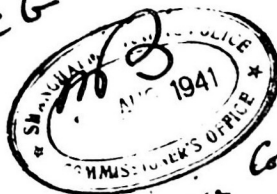
I
J. Harman

3/4 A.C. (Sp. Br.)

6/31/7

A.C. (Special Branch)

Sa C G



Inform your rice Committee

